





PATENT 0445-0307P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Yoshinobu MACHIDA et al.

Conf.:

1179

Appl. No.:

09/889,847

Group:

1762

Filed:

July 23, 2001

Examiner: UNASSIGNED

For:

METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING ABSORBENT ARTICLE AND

CONTINUOUS MEMBER USED AS A PART OF ABSORBENT ARTICLE

LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

March 21, 2002

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a Translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report to be made of record in the instant application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

JAK/clb 0445-0307P

Translation of International Preliminary Examination Enclosure:

Report